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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/897,555 | OFEK ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Brenda Pham | 2664 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/2/2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 4, line 27, the recitation "The system as in claim 1" has been amended to –
The system as in claim 3--.

3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David H. Sitrick on November 24, 2004.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. Claims 1-34 allowed over prior art.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggest in combination a system and method for transferring a plurality of scheduled data packets from at least one source to at least one destination, wherein the transfer of the scheduled data packets are provided during respective ones of a plurality of predefined time intervals, wherein each of the predefined time intervals is comprised of a plurality of predefined time frames, the system comprising: a virtual pipe comprising at least two switches interconnected in a path via communications links, each of said switches having a plurality of input ports and a plurality of output ports; a common timing reference signal coupled to each of the

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switch; wherein for each of the input ports of each switch there is an associated a predefined position within a first predefined time frame within which a scheduled data packet is transferred into the respective input port and an associated separate predefined position within a second predefined time frame within which the respective scheduled data packet is transferred from the output port out of the respective switch.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(US 5,455,701) Eng et al disclose a packet switching apparatus using pipeline controller.

(US 5,251,209) Jurkevich et al disclose a system and method of transmitting information between a multiplicity of subscribers as components of traffic in an integrated services network. The information traffic consists of a multiplicity of media types associated with respective ones of the different subscribers including voice, video and data traffic component types.

(US 5,742,606) Iliadis et al disclose in a communication switch with input and output queue, which handles different priority classes of traffic (e.g. video, and audio

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applications with a high priority, and file transfers and e-mail as low priority traffic), the invention provides a timed shut-off mechanism at each input queue.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brenda Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-3135. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin, can be reached on (571) 272-3134.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

November 23, 2004
Brenda Pham

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wellington Chin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.